

HINRICH ALPERS PIANIST

"... music making of the highest order. Remember this name: Hinrich Alpers."
(The New York Sun, March 2008)

German pianist Hinrich Alpers, 1st Prize winner of the 3rd International Telekom Beethoven Competition in Bonn, Germany, and Laureate of Canada's Honens International Piano Competition, wants you to listen. "I want to inspire others to enjoy and think about music," comments Alpers. "Music is one of the most direct and powerful ways of communicating and listeners depend on honest and inspired performers."

Alpers has performed in recital, as soloist with orchestra, and as collaborator in chamber music and lieder throughout Europe, the United States and Canada. His performances are often recorded for radio and television broadcast. The recipient of the 2008 Juilliard William Petschek Piano Debut Recital Award, Alpers made his acclaimed Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall debut in March 2008. After touring Germany the following month, Alpers returned to Canada for the Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival; a tour with the TinAlley String Quartet, winner of the 2007 Banff International String Quartet Competition; and a performance with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. His first solo CD, recorded at The Banff Centre, has been released in fall 2008 and he made his recital debuts at the Berlin Philharmonie and Munich Gasteig in spring 2009.

Hinrich Alpers studied with Bernd Goetzke at the Hannover Hochschule für Musik und Theater and earned his Graduate Diploma from The Juilliard School, studying with Jerome Lowenthal. Today he teaches piano at the University of Music and Drama of Hanover.

In addition to winning the Beethoven Competition, Alpers was awarded both special prizes for best performance of chamber music (sonatas with cellist Misha Maisky) and best performance of the commissioned work - he had already been awarded those special prizes in addition to becoming Laureate of the Honens Competition, for best ensemble performance and for best performance of a newly commissioned work. Two years earlier, he received First Prize at the Concours Grieg (Norway), the Schleswig Holstein Music Festival Prize (Germany) and the Mozarteum Salzburg Summer Academy Award (Austria). He was named a Steinway Artist in 2007. Alpers, who splits his time between Berlin and Hanover, spends as much time as possible outdoors and listens to everything from Bach to Coltrane.